29th November 1928]

(b) if so, what the cost is; and

(c) whether the Government propose to reconsider the question of increasing the pay of village officers?

A.—(a) & (b) A report has been received from the Board of Revenue but it did not contain full particulars of the financial effect of the restoration. The Board has been asked to supply them.

(c) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government.

Rules governing the conduct of village karnams.

965 Q.—Mr. V. KAMESWARA RAO NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any rules governing the conduct of karnams and village headmen; and

(b) if not, whether the Government propose to prescribe such rules, as in the case of other Government servants?

A.—(a) & (b) The Village Officers' Manual contains rules for the guidance of village headmen and karnams.

[For further list of unstarred questions, please see page 480 infra.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Agriculture

Introduction of agricultural classes in the Board High School at Poonamallee.

* 966 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the experiences gained by the Agricultural Department, and the results achieved, by the introduction of agricultural classes and an agricultural farm in the Board High School, Poonamallee;

(b) the expenditure incurred by the Government thereon during the year 1927-28; and

(c) whether the Agricultural Department supervised the farm opened in the Poonamallee High School and whether the department propose to advise any improvements?

A.—(a) The Agricultural Department beyond giving advice when asked for it has not taken any special part in this experiment.

(b) The Agricultural Department have not expended anything.

(c) Advice was given by the Demonstrator at St. Thomas' Mount and the Deputy Director, IV Circle, during their visits to the school. Such advice from them can always be had when sought for.

Excise

Classification of palmyra or coconut toddy arrack as foreign.

* 967 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether arrack made from coconut or palmyra toddy is in any part of the Presidency classed as foreign; and

(b) if so, where and why?